and obtained a convention which provided for trade and forbade the Tibetans to grant concessions without the consent of Britain. In 1906, China, as Tibet's overlord, confirmed the agreement, with safeguards against further aggression by the British, and in 1907 an Anglo-Russian agreement recognized Chinese suzerainty in Tibet and promised that neither power would seek concessions in the country. China had begun by force to strengthen its position in Tibet. After the establishment of the Republic it still attempted to do so and insisted upon regarding Tibet as an integral part of its domains. By the end of 1912, however, Chinese troops were driven out of all but the edges of the land and Tibet became practically independent. Efforts were made, at British instance, to settle Anglo-Sino-Tibetan relations by negotiations, but with results to which the Chinese would not consent. In 1914 Great Britain and Tibet reached an agreement whereby, among other provisions, Inner Tibet—that portion of the country which adjoins India—was to be autonomous, although nominally still under Chinese suzerainty.

In the last years of the Ch'ing China had pursued an aggressive policy in Mongolia. For years Chinese settlers had been pushing the frontier of cultivated land ever northward of the Great Wall into Inner Mongolia. Just before their downfall, much to the annoyance of the natives, the Manchus were seeking to increase their authority in Outer Mongolia. The revolution of 1911, accordingly, was welcomed by the Mongols as an opportunity to throw off the Chinese yoke. Late in 1911, Outer Mongolia declared its independence and the Hutukhtu of Urga, the ranking ecclesiastic of the Lamaistic sect of Buddhism of that

region, was invested with the headship of the state. In 1912 Russia recognized the autonomy of Outer Mongolia in return for an extension of Russian privileges in the region. The following year China, in an agreement with Russia, assented to the new status in return for the Russian acknowledgment of Chinese suzerainty in the area, and in 1915 a tripartite agreement betwieen the interested parties confirmed this relationship. The Russian claim to a voice in Mongolian affairs was, therefore, acknowledged by Peking. Although China was reluctant to admit it, some of the distant portions of the Empire won by the great Ch'ing Emperors/ Outer Tibet and Outer Mongolia, were slipping from its grasp.